

The DRAFT minutes of an ordinary meeting of Priston Parish Council held on Monday 5 December 2005 in the Village Hall, Priston commencing at 7.00pm.

Prior to the formal business of the meeting residents were given the opportunity to speak to councillors on matters of interest to them or which cause them concern:

- (i) Mrs Anderson spoke about the unsatisfactory condition of the lower section of Priston Hill advising that a resident's car had recently had been irretrievably damaged in an accident on the ice. In response to Mrs Anderson's suggestion that a working party be set up to clear debris from the sides of the road to allow surface water to flow into the ditches and so prevent ice from forming across the road, Mrs Todd advised that she had arranged to meet with the Highways Manager in a few days and would raise this matter with him. Also noted that the drainage holes in the wall bordering Mrs Anderson's property and also Village Farm were in need of attention.
- (ii) Mr Broomfield thanked the Parish Council for arranging for a large boulder, which had been causing a hazard, to be moved from the edge of the road at the Woodlands.
- (iii) Mrs Hamilton reminded the meeting that she had planning permission to build on the field between Edgehill and Willow Rise and asked if there had been any further discussion by the Parish Council on her plans to build a house higher in the field. Councillor Bowyer responded that the Parish Council could not have any opinions on this proposal as no formal planning application had been received and the proposed development was outside the Housing Development Boundary. Noted that this was an agenda item for the meeting.

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Councillor Bowyer presided, Councillors Cross, Geake, Hughes, Lippiatt, Nokes, Whybrow and Parish Clerk were present. The Chairman welcomed District Councillor Mrs Rosemary Todd and village residents Mrs Anderson, Mr Broomfield, Mrs Hamilton and Mrs Harry.

1. There were no **apologies**.
2. **The Minutes of the meeting** held on 19 September were read, confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings and signed by the Chairman.
3. **Matters Arising:**
The Clerk advised that no reply had been received from the Royal Mail regarding delivery of mail, but that English Heritage had advised that our request for listing of the telephone box had been referred to the Secretary of State.
Comments were made by several Councillors that the remedial work to the road alongside the dairy of Pressbarrow Farm had been ineffective.
The Clerk's husband was thanked for replacing the Parish Council's noticeboard. Agreed he be paid £5 towards the cost of Perspex used.
4. **Correspondence** - Councillor Bowyer and the Clerk reported briefly on the correspondence written and received since the last meeting which included the information that 12 letters had been written to land owners regarding the children's play area and six replies in the negative had been received; a letter received from Transportation and Highways offering a mobile vehicle activated sign for the parish and written to Councillor Todd regarding ditches in the parish.
5. **Financial Report** - The Clerk reported the current balance at the bank was £994.49 and cash in hand £20.29. A Wessex Water account of £44.11 had recently been paid. Renewal of Cam Valley membership in the sum of £5 had been requested and also annual subscription to the Society of Local Council Clerks. Mrs Hunt advised that she wished to pay the third quarter of her annual salary (£375) at the end of the month and also pointed out that the subscription to the SLCC was pro rata to her salary. These payments all agreed unanimously. Mrs Hunt concluded by advising that requests for precept were to be with B&NES by 16 February 2006.
6. **Computer** - Councillor Bowyer was very pleased to announce that Councillor Geake had very kindly donated a computer for the Clerk's use. Mr Bottle had arranged the connection to Broadband. The sincere thanks of the Parish Council were extended to Councillor and Mrs Geake for their generosity.
7. **Questionnaire** - Councillor Bowyer thanked councillors and the village resident who had assisted with the distribution of the questionnaire advising that all parts of the parish had been circulated and that approximately 50% of residents had responded. The section of the questionnaire relating to transport needs had been passed to Community Action.

8. **Land between Edgehill and Willow Rise** - Councillor Bowyer reported that Mrs Hamilton had invited herself and some near neighbours to view a model of a proposed new dwelling on land attached to Hill Farm House. Applications for a change to the Housing Development Boundary and for the new dwelling were to be submitted by Mrs Hamilton to the Planning Office of Bath and North East Somerset.
9. **Priston Website** - The Clerk read a report which she had received by email from Mr Bottle advising of the information held on the website. Mr Bottle was again thanked for all his hard work in making the Priston Website an excellent facility.
10. **Footpaths and Bridleways** - My Whybrow reported that the footbridge at Priston Mill was expected to be repaired in this financial year.
11. **Planning Applications:**
 - (i) **Church Farm - New Horse Riding Arena** - Noted that the Planning Consent form had not been issued by Planning Services despite pursuance by the Clerk. (Subsequent to the meeting Councillor Hughes was successful in obtaining photocopies from the Case Officer.)
 - (ii) **North Hill Farm - Extension to existing Telecommunications Mast** - The Clerk advised her enquiry to the Case Officer had confirmed that the completed height of this mast was 22.5metres.
12. **Any other business -**
Councillor Todd advised:
 - (a) of an enquiry received from another parish as to how emergency vehicles could find addresses in rural areas. She would be raising this issue with the Ambulance Service.
 - (b) she was delighted with the response received from Camerton, Dunkerton, Englishcombe and Priston Parish Councils to the Travel Needs Survey.
 - (c) she had arranged to meet with Mr Peter Brooke, Highways Manager, to discuss on site existing and perceived ditches in the parish. Councillor Todd undertook to speak to him with regard to other Highway problems. Village resident Mrs Anderson volunteered to meet Councillor Todd on behalf of the Parish Council.

Priston Hill - Referring to the issues raised at the beginning of the meeting Councillor Bowyer formally requested Councillor Todd to discuss the annual problem of ineffective drainage and subsequent icing of the road, with the Highways Manager.

Drain adjacent to Church Farm - following recent heavy rain this drain had again overflowed causing severe flooding of the High Street. Councillor Todd was also asked to raise this and other drainage problems with the Highways Manager.

Woodlands Lane - The Clerk advised that the Highways Inspector is aware the recent resurfacing has not proved satisfactory and would be arranging for the contractors to return.

Ring O'Bells - Noted that the landlord had applied for 24 hour opening under new legislation.

Drinking Fountain - Councillor Hughes advised the water to the fountain had been turned off for the winter months. Noted there is evidence that the protective covering has been tampered with.

Pedestrian gate - Councillor Bowyer to follow up comments received regarding a pedestrian gate.
13. **Dates of meetings in 2006** - Agreed that meetings be held on 6 February, 3 April (Annual Parish plus ordinary meeting), 15 May (Annual General plus ordinary meeting), 3 July, 18 September and 4 December. All meetings commencing 7.00pm as usual. The Clerk to publish this information in The Link and on the Priston Website. The Village Hall had been booked and other regular users contacted.
14. **Date of next meeting** - Monday 6 February 2006 commencing 7.00pm at which the annual precept would be an agenda item.

There being no further business for consideration the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.10pm and thanked Councillors and residents for their participation and attendance.